

## Message Text

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TAGS: SOPN, US, CY, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT LAURENCE STERN FRONT PAGE BYLINER, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, WASHINGTON POST, HEADLINED "ENVOY DAVIES' KILLERS KNOWN TO U.S.".

2. U.S. INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS LEARNED THE IDENTITY OF THE ASSASSINS OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO CYPRUS, RODGER P. DAVIES, WITHIN AN HOUR AFTER HE WAS SHOT IN NICOSIA ON AUGUST 19, 1974, IT WAS LEARNED YESTERDAY.

3. THE AMBASSADOR'S KILLERS ARE STILL SERVING IN THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT SECURITY FORCES EVEN THOUGH THE ASSASSINATION WAS RECORDED ON COMMERCIAL TELEVISION NEWS FILM AND THE IDENTITY OF THE KILLERS WAS REPORTED TO HIGH CYPRIOT OFFICIALS ACCORDING TO INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

4. AN ALLUSION TO THE DAVIES EPISODE IS MADE IN A FOOTNOTE  
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TO THE STILL-SECRET REPORT OF THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COM-

MITTEE, WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THAT PANEL TODAY.

5. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES SAID THAT SHORTLY AFTER THE SHOOTING, DURING AN ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATION BY PRIMARILY LEFTIST

GREEK CYPRIOT DEMONSTRATORS, HARD INFORMATION ON THE IDENTITY AND AFFILIATION OF THE ASSASSINS WAS BEING RELAYED THROUGH INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS TO WASHINGTON.

6. THE INVESTIGATION, BASED ON EYEWITNESSES AND LATER CORROBORATED BY ABC NEWS FILM NEVER SHOWN PUBLICLY, INDICATED THAT THE MURDER OF DAVIES WAS CAREFULLY PLANNED AND EXECUTED BY ELEMENTS OF THE RIGHT-WING EOKA-B TERRORIST ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATED WITH NICOS SAMPSON, WHO WAS INSTALLED BRIEFLY AS CYPRUS PRESIDENT AFTER THE OVERTHROW ON JULY 15, 1974 OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS.

7. SOME MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE PANEL WANT TO KNOW WHY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DID NOT INSIST ON PUNISHMENT OF DAVIES' MURDERERS. OFFICIALS WHO SERVED ON THE EMBASSY STAFF IN NICOSIA ALSO WERE ANGERED BY THE REFUSAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE STRONGER ACTION IN THE EPISODE.

8. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT ITSELF, WHICH WAS THEN HEADED BY HOUSE SPEAKER GLAFKOS CLERIDES IN THE ENFORCED ABSENCE OF MAKARIOS, PLAYED ANY ROLE IN THE ASSASSINATION.

9. CLERIDES WAS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF DAVIES AND INTERRUPTED A NEWS CONFERENCE TO RUSH TO THE SCENE OF THE DEMONSTRATION BUILDING AROUND THE EMBASSY IN AN EFFORT TO AVERT VIOLENCE.

10. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER IN WASHINGTON MADE NO ALLUSION TO THE FACT THAT THE ASSASSINS WERE KNOWN TO THE U.S. AND CYPRIOT GOVERNMENTS.

11. "WE HAD FILM AND WE KNEW THE MATERIAL WITNESSES. WE UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO KNEW THAT THERE WERE CYPRIOT POLICE OFFICERS WHO WERE SCARED TO DEATH ABOUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THEY TALKED," SAID ONE KNOWLEDGEABLE U.S. OFFICIAL WHO WAS SERVING IN THE EMBASSY AT THE TIME. "THERE WAS A TENDENCY AT THE HIGHEST OFFICIAL LEVEL TO SWEEP THE THING UNDER THE RUG," HE SAID.

12. THE OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATION REACTION TO THE DAVIES

MURDER CONTRASTED SHARPLY WITH THE RESPONSE TO THE SLAYING  
LAST MONTH OF CIA STATION CHIEF RICHARD WELCH IN ATHENS,  
WHO SERVED IN NICOSIA DURING THE EARLY 1960S.

13. AT THE TIME OF THE DAVIES ASSASSINATION KISSINGER WAS  
TRYING BY NEGOTIATION TACTICS TO DAMP THE FIRES OF THE

GREEK-TURKISH CONFLICT OVER CYPRUS THEN AGGRAVATED BY A  
JUST-COMPLETED TURKISH MILITARY DRIVE TO TAKE OVER NEARLY  
HALF THE ISLAND. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS, THEREFORE,  
TRYING TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF PEACE MAKER.

14. IN THE CASE OF THE WELCH ASSASSINATION THE PRESIDENT  
AND OTHER TOP U.S. OFFICIALS FOCUSED BLAME ON THOSE WHO  
PUBLISHED THE NAME OF WELCH AND HIS CIA AFFILIATION. THE  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER'S NAME AND HOME ADDRESS IN ATHENS  
WERE PUBLISHED IN THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ATHENS DAILY NEWS A  
MONTH BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION AND IN A WASHINGTON-BASED  
PUBLICATION, COUNTER-SPY, A YEAR AGO.

15. THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE  
IS SHARPLY CRITICAL OF KISSINGER'S ROLE ON A VARIETY OF  
OTHER FRONTS, INCLUDING HIS MANAGEMENT OF STRATEGIC ARMS  
INFORMATION, COVERT CIA OPERATIONS IN ANGOLA AND ITALY AS  
WELL AS INVOLVEMENT IN THE KURDISH INSURGENCY AND THE  
ADMINISTRATION'S REPOSE IN WARNINGS OF A COUP IN CYPRUS.  
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